

The Region ReCAP

Southeast Region

...news from across the Region



Alabama-Florida-Georgia-Mississippi-Puerto Rico-Tennessee

November/December 2004



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Col Matt Sharkey

They say "Membership has its privileges," and I agree. I also say it a little differently, too: Membership **IS** a privilege." As Americans we enjoy freedoms others are denied which makes service to our country and communities through CAP an especially rewarding experience.

I receive that reward when I get to meet each of you. Just a few weeks ago I spent time in Puerto Rico for their Wing Conference. From a discussion with our driver and new friend Michael Piñero, about the \$10 fee charged for Puerto Rican CAPMart purchases (which was removed that very weekend), to dining with the new Wing Commander, Herman Liboy, I gained valuable insight and personal reward spending time with you... my fellow volunteers.

But despite the rewards of serving in emergency services, cadet programs, and aerospace education, some members are not experiencing that fulfillment, which leads to our greatest threat to membership growth: attrition. People hear about Civil Air Patrol, and get excited about the possibilities of service, and join. Yet often times, for various reasons, those new members don't stay. Sometimes it is because they are not properly trained and are put into a position that is beyond their level of experience. When someone is overwhelmed, he or she is more likely to burn out quickly and leave a squadron. This is why mentoring is something we're promoting heavily.

Another area to consider is lack of appreciation. I recently spoke with someone who received a promotion, but no words of congratulations from anyone up the food chain. We must remember that "A compliment is verbal sunshine." If we want to "shine" in CAP, we need to promote encouragement to our fellow members when they succeed, whether great or small.

The reduction in membership numbers is not due solely to attrition of new members, but also from our not bringing in as many new people as we could. I made a challenge to the Puerto Rico Wing to have each member bring in one new person over the next year to introduce them to the work we do. Because I firmly believe in what we do in CAP, in our day-to-day operations, I know that a great majority of newcomers will want to be a part of what we do. To that end, I challenge each member of the Southeast Region to invite friends, co-workers, neighbors, and people we meet to unit events and meetings.

As you know, CAP is no longer the "best kept secret" in the country. More people are aware of our missions and members than ever before. Let's continue that positive shift by bringing in new visitors and volunteers. Let's give the privilege of membership to those around us make this organization even more successful than it already is.

SER CHAPLAIN

Submitted by Chaplain Ralph Rivers, Lt Col, SER Chief of Chaplains

It's a no brainer when it comes to assessing the fading year, 2004. The news was often filled with events that were not so good such as multiple hurricanes in our region, the continuing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, terror alerts, rising fuel costs. The list is longer than I want to recall. In addition, there were good things too numerous to write about. All in all, 2004 was a memorable year in many respects. We gained a lot of experience in how to be involved in human relationships. It remains for the unfolding year, 2005, to see how much we learned and how willing we are to put that knowledge into practice. As the saying goes, only time will tell.

As I sit here this morning, I'm at the winding-down stage of major events in my life as a parish pastor during the past year. Many opportunities have come and gone to give expression to my beliefs and responsibilities. As Southeast Region Headquarters Chaplain, I've begun the process leading up to the annual Chaplain Service Staff College which is well under way. It will be one of the best with something for Chaplains and something for Moral Leadership Officers. The Chief of Chaplains, Chaplain (Col) Charles Sharp will be presenting a seminar on Chaplains and the Inspection process.

Southeast Region Commander, Col Matt Sharkey, and his staff are starting to get their feet wet as a team. 2005 will provide many options for service to the members and communities of the Southeast Region. My prayer is that our efforts will bear much good fruit during the coming months. There's a lot to be done and it will take the best of each of us to make it happen. 2005 will begin with a lot of blank pages. Let's be careful in what we write down - no accidents, no injuries, and no conflicts. Bring a friend and get him or her involved in CAP, help a kid become an excited cadet, and lots of other good things to report. Best of all, enjoy each other and support the tasks and efforts of others to make Southeast Region the premier Region in service to our great nation, the United States of America.

I should be back on the air (HF) as soon as my antenna is replaced. Charley took it. VHF will be installed in the new car soon. My call sign is Southeast CAP 5.

God bless and keep you and yours safe and secure.

Holidays just about gone?

Do you think it is too late to support the troops?

Well, think again – the holidays may soon pass but our troops are still serving!

They are Ambassadors of Good Will as well as defenders of Liberty. This child, Fatima, now has a chance to taste liberty, something before unknown in her country.



The future of any country lays in the hearts and minds of the youth. It will be difficult and there will be many challenges. Now they have an opportunity to be a part of success instead of oppression and defeat.



**Supporting the Troops
Is a Responsibility – Not an Option!**

SER Deployed Military Support Project is networking with other civic groups and organizations in a dedicated effort to support the troops. Your Wing and your Unit are needed to help in this effort. Will you help?

Supporting the Troops continued

Members of the CAP serving within the SER have been called to active duty and now serve in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. If your unit has someone deployed anywhere on active duty we need to know so we can insure they are getting packages, cards and letters. Please send an email to Chaplain Lt Col Dewey Painter, CAP at:

chpainterserdmsp@wmconnect.com

Please provide details about the CAP member serving and their military mailing address to include them in the DMSP project.



The Deployed Military Support Project [DMSP] began in 1999 as a way to support troops that were deployed by Group Two of the Florida Wing. It later grew and when Chaplain Painter became the Wing Chaplain the program was expanded to cover the entire Wing and beyond. Last year over 77,000 troops received some type of support as a result of the network of units and organizations that Chaplain Painter was able to assemble in support of the troops. One major factor for the success of the program was Mayor John Peyton of Jacksonville, Florida providing extensive support to the DMSP project. Others such as the Northeast Florida Veterans Council and Mission Harvest of Jacksonville also joined in the effort. With Chaplain Painter now serving as SER Deputy Chaplain and Special Projects Officer the program he originated has been expanded to include all Wings of the Southeast Region who wish to participate. If you are interested in supporting the Troops then please contact Chaplain Painter today. When does the project end? Chaplain Painter's reply is "When the last Airman, Sailor, Marine and Soldier comes home!" Until then we will just keep on supporting the troops. Your help is needed NOW!

**SER AEROSPACE
EDUCATION**

Submitted by Dave Garner, Lt Col, SER Director of Aerospace Education

AEROSPACE EDUCATION ACTION ITEMS

1. **Squadron Aerospace Education Report due and Aerospace Education Officer duties at Squadron levels:**
 - a) Your DAE should complete the Wing "End-of-Year" Report and include copies of your squadron AE survey reports and send all to the SER DCS AE, LTC Dave Garner, and RDAE, Ms. Kathy Baucum, no later than 30 December 2004. Please send each squadron a copy of their AE survey and ask them to complete and attach any documentation and PR from AE activities completed during this year. Each squadron should have an AE Officer appointed. Squadron Commander assumes duty if no AE Officer is appointed. Each squadron AE Officer should be assigned to the AE track (215) and complete the AE Specialty Track Rating System.
 - b) Each squadron AE Officer should be part of each squadron program presenting an aerospace education briefing and/or instruction leading to completion of the AEPSM AE examination. (Yeager Award)
 - d) Each squadron should develop a plan to work with area schools to act as a resource to promote aerospace education in the community. (see 2a)
 - e) Each squadron AE Officer should communicate with DAE at Wing Headquarters as to all community and squadron AE activity. Wing DAE should communicate all Wing AE activities to SER DCS AE with a copy to the RDAE, Ms. Kathy Baucum.
 - f) Brewer Award nominations: CAP Senior, CAP Cadet, Individual, Organization; due to Wing Headquarters, with copy to the SER DCS AE and RDAE, Ms. Kathy Baucum, National Headquarters, not later than January 30, 2005.
 - g) For more information and survey forms see your Aerospace Education Officer's Handbook, Pamphlet 15. Also forms are on the National CAP Website.

2. National Headquarters has released two new AE textbooks:

Aerospace Dimensions, Civil Air Patrol's new six-module aerospace education program for junior high school students and cadets in Phases I/II, and ***Aerospace: The Journey of Flight***, the new textbook for high school/junior college students and Phase III/IV cadets, are available for purchase from the CAP Bookstore at Maxwell AFB, AL.

The AEPSM Exam for Seniors leading to the Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager Aerospace Education Achievement Award reflects the content in the new AE Text Book *Aerospace: The Journey of Flight*. The exam is now available on-line at CAP Headquarters AE.

**3. Southeast Region and National Aerospace Education activities
National Aerospace Education Officer Staff College**

The fourth annual **National Aerospace Officer Staff School** will be held July 7-9, 2005 at the Pensacola Navy Air Station, Pensacola, FL. This school is directed toward state DAE's and their Internal and External AE officers at wing level to start with. The focus of the school is on making your job easier to do by educating the DAE on resources available. The instruction and seminars will be a combined effort between CAP and NASA. More details are on the SER Website. Applications are being accepted now.

4. Southeast Region leads the Nation in Aerospace Education activities:

The SER CAP leads the nation in CAP AE activity! **Congratulations to Florida Wing as the top AE Wing in the Nation again this past year!** Third year in a row for Florida Wing as top AE Wing in the Nation!

We have 70% of all of the AEM membership nation-wide in the SER. Tennessee has the highest number of AEM members in the nation. Florida is second.

We have 70% of all AE Teacher workshops. CAP plays an active part in many of these teacher workshops.

The SER usually dominates in CAP AE Awards, both Brewer and top wings in AE.

We have much to be proud of in our region. We must all work as a team in SER to continue our AE leadership position and improve in all areas.

**SER DRUG DEMAND
REDUCTION**

Submitted by David Mikelson, Lt Col, SER DDR Director



Cadet Sgt William T. Frydrych signs his name on the wing of the RV-9 aircraft being assembled at the MacDill Aeronautical Academy, Civil Air Patrol Cadet Squadron during a recent open house.

SER Drug Demand Reduction continued

Submitted by Tracey A. Stark, Capt, Commander, FL-804

The Student Leadership Academy Cadet Squadron of Group 800 had a very soggy Thanksgiving weekend. On Saturday, 27 Nov 04, in the pouring rain, several cadets, Capt Stark, Commander, and Peggy Balsinger (Parent Volunteer) Marched in the largest Night Parade in Florida. When the Venice Christmas Parade started, the WWII refurbished Jeep that Mr. Farley, a local businessman had so graciously offered for Capt Stark and Mrs. Balsinger to ride in, would not start. This caused both Mrs. Balsinger and Capt Stark to "make a run for it" for over a block in order to catch up with the Cadets of the SER-FL-804, being led by C/Commander Trevorah & Amn Balsinger. The 1.5 sloppy miles were brightened only by the singing of various cadences by all involved.

SER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by Ray Hayden, Major, SER Director of Professional Development

No matter which political party you may have voted for in this past election, consider this: I did work on one of the campaigns for one of the major two parties. During the process I noticed that there was a sever lack of organization in the process of getting things done. Most of the people I ran across during the election process felt the same.

When time for voting came about (early voting on the 18th of October) I came in close contact with those from the "other side" and we all got to talking about things - It appears that BOTH sides had a large gap in organization skills, lack of supplies and all sorts of the same type of problems and difficulties.

Now let's jump back in time to when I joined CAP locally. I had started my own business where I had been an employee all my life before. Being an employee of a company is easy in respect that someone can be trusted to tell you what you need to do and when. Large companies have books of instructions on how to accomplish things. Being out on my own meant that I had to be the one to decide what needed to be done and when. When remembering that the Air Force had all those organized skills down on paper, I thought of CAP.

Joining CAP was in part to give a purpose to my flying, but mainly to get a grasp of regulation and organizational skills that I needed right away in my business life. To this end CAP has helped me tremendously.

My point is - being Professional Development related is that we get to practice extremely valid organizational skills for nearly everything we do in CAP! While the Nation may or may not be divided to any extent, CAP, and the skills that are learned and applied in our tasks show that a very large organization can not only function smoothly, but successfully as well!

During times of calmness to those times when all kinds of things are going wrong, it is now as it was when I served on active duty - a pleasure to see people come together for a greater good. It is even more wonderful when all of you who give so much, do so voluntarily and without pay other than that of a job well done. Take the opportunities that we are presented and apply the skills you learn to all you do. CAP has been an asset to me professionally and educationally and I certainly appreciate that!

SER COUNTERDRUG

Submitted by Ernie Bilotto, Lt Col, SER Director, Counter Drugs and Ed Kessler, Capt, SER/CDDA

We in the Southeast Region Counter Drug are very dynamic in supporting our Wing's counterdrug programs and training activities. We are there for the wing Counterdrug Officers (CDO), to support their needs and mentor their development in their critical role in the National CAP Counterdrug program. This insures greater standardization and uniformity of our program nationwide. Our region shines above all the rest, thanks to this inter-operability and cooperative spirit. We appreciate the opportunity to give you a brief description of what SER CD has been up to over the past year.

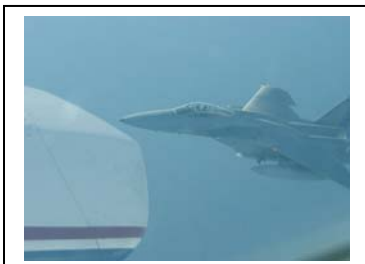
SER Counter Drug continued

Despite the persistent challenge of an ever-shrinking budget, SER CD has been fortunate to retain quality personnel, a task that eludes many other organizations. SER CD personnel are selected for their commitment to mission excellence, to continuing education & training and for their mutual support of the Region and its Wings. Lt Col Bilotto, using minimal staff, directs the program through site visits to Wing CDOs and their staffs. He mentors and supports CD training initiatives between wings, which has increased mission readiness, and aircrew proficiency. The use of monthly telephone conferences is also held to bring together CDOs throughout the region, to facilitate the timely transmission of policy changes, and other items of operational concern, as well as to provide policy guidance per the CAPR 60-6, in addition to serving as a forum for discussions between CDOs.

Maj Eddie Hood, former CDO for GAWG, was brought on board to assume partial management and quality oversight of our national imaging program for the Southern US. Maj Hood gained extensive statewide operational experience as a CDO and has conducted several CD training courses for the region and is proving to be a valued asset. Capt Ed Kessler, Admin Assistant to the Director, not only supports Southeast Air Defense operations, but also has brought the CD program to the forefront, through the production of public information articles within the region and to HQ. This has resulted in favorable coverage, while omitting ops-sensitive information, so to foster favorable public awareness and support for this vital effort, which for many, and remains an unnecessary mystery. Capt Kessler, also makes monthly reports to NHQ for budgeting & quarterly reporting requirements to Congress, and compiles monthly tel-com minutes, all of which are extremely vital to insure the exchange of operational information among CD elements within the wings, region and NHQ. Capt Kessler also produced a ppt for the CD pilot and observer training curriculum which sheds light on the origins of the "Observer" who first appeared in combat aircraft in 1914 over France & Germany. Viewing rarely seen images, modern day "CAP Observers" are transported back to 1914 and the work day and tools of the first combat Observers. The 1914 Observer sketched and later photographed troop positions and movements under hostile fire, from the seat of an open-air cockpit. The study shows the evolution of observer to gunner, to weapons and sensors officer, in addition to modern day UAV's which now perform these military functions. Lt Sally Bilotto provides the never-ending logistical and administrative assistance to Lt Col Ernie Bilotto, but prefers to remain behind the scenes in her role. None-the-less her vital work is much appreciated.

Other SER staff duties to support Counterdrug and Southeast Air Defense missions are as follows. Lt Col Bilotto provides advice and counsel to the Commander of Southeast Region for all regional CD matters. Lt Col Bilotto provides advice and counsel concerning all matters associated with SER mission deployable elements for the Southeast Air Defense program, as well as to CAP-USAF and the Air National Guard about CAP mission capabilities.

Southeast Air Defense Sector mission requests are directed from 1st AF / SEADS to Lt Col Bilotto, who designates the appropriate crews and airframes, based on his special knowledge of CAP capabilities and the tasking goals of Air National Guard Combat Squadrons. Aircrews from both region staff and wing squadrons are deployed with high performance "Twins" and specially equipped C182s. Capt Kessler, after examining the mission profiles, coordinate mission approval with CAP National Operations Center / CAP-USAF, and produces crew tasking orders. Operational considerations aloft between the ANG and CAP crews, factors impacting the mission area, special equipment needs, and weather analysis and mission briefs are conducted up to launch time by Lt Col Bilotto to insure proper risk assessment prior to launch. However different each mission is, they all have as their common objective, the aim of improving the operations of interceptor pilots, ground radar combat controllers, maintenance crews and related centers of operations which are coordinated to protect the people of the continental United States.



SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS / AMALGAM CHIEF

Amalgam Chief is described by Air Force News PACAF, of 17 Mar 03, substantially as a bi-national exercise run by the US and Canada, (NORAD) to link military and civilian forces to perfect capability and readiness to defend regional land, sea and airspace. It added, "now military planners in the U.S. have a new job—to prepare exercise scenarios that place the US in the attack zone" In FY 03, and again in FY 04, Lt Col Bilotto coordinated Region and Wing air crews to fly Amalgam Chief missions, in which CD vetted crews performed in Minute Man tradition to surpass set goals. The AC exercise is designed to simulate various airborne threat configurations. This national exercise was conducted by national military command authorities and was monitored by the staff within the Executive office of the President.



L-R Holland, Hood, Tyndall PAO, Bilotto, Kessler.

G8 WORLD SUMMIT

Lt Col Bilotto, "One of the largest and most complex mission, both operationally and logistically speaking was our response to the G8 Summit held at Sea Isle, Georgia this past June". Before any of the diplomatic leaders deplaned at the G8 International World Summit at Sea Isle, GA, legions of Local, State, and Federal law enforcement with specialized military elements fashioned a cocoon of security. Lt Col Bilotto recruited aircrews from the wings of MS, AL, FL and GA, who had the extended operational capabilities to meet the rigid scheduling that 1st Air Force required to insure the security of the summit. For Lt Col Bilotto, SER and supporting personnel this required over 1,000 hours of exhaustive planning, coordination and flight hours in sorties which were designed to test and calibrate various air defense systems, implemented for the safety of President Bush and the multitudes of international dignitaries to include President Putin (Russia). Initial operations by Auxiliary aircrews, performed beyond the expectations of the 1st Air Force which requested their inclusion for an additional week. This doubled the length of the mission to two and one half weeks. Command personnel, Lt Col Bilotto and Col Skiba, performed a dual role, when they flew military personnel and classified information back to the 1st AF, HQ. It is noteworthy in that this very high profile, special mission was safely conducted using 50 mission sorties in 120 flight hours.



MISSISSIPPI WING COUNTERDRUG & TRAINING

MSWG: Maj James E. Taylor, CDO, Lt Col Johnny S. Taylor, and Lt Col Wes Bennett, in addition to conducting their wing CD operations MSWG also accomplished a very well received counterdrug school at the Gulfport Air National Guard Base. Maj Taylor has been the most proactive in the support of multi-wing training programs. Thanks to him and the National Guard in Gulfport, billeting was provided at nominal rates. With nearby class room facilities that aided mastery of the curriculum by our members which included video and digital imagery, slow scan down linking, survival measures, marine and airport reconnaissance, communications equipment ops, administrative and mission operational and CAPR 60-6 requirements and safety. This training has been praised by both NHQs Staff and CAP-USAF as being a most efficient way of implementing training in a region.

ALABAMA WING COUNTERDRUG & TRAINING

Maj Jay D. Holland, CDO ALWG; in addition to flying their drug eradication assistance flights for State of Alabama authorities conducted a significant training accomplishment in presenting a Mountain Flying Course. Day one consisted of an intensive series of safety and technical lectures with the highly qualified instructional assistance of Lt Col Harold Coghlan, who is a multi-engine rated commercial pilot with 17K hours. The course covered the life threatening hazards of passing under Lenticular clouds and over mountain tops, how to execute clearing turns, the physiological factors of flying, crew resource management, safety, in flight checks, bird strikes, emergency procedures, aircraft performance



limitations, the often fatal mistake of not obtaining mountain weather conditions upwind, downwind, and other critical items. Day two of this comprehensive course saw the pilots airborne practicing their new skills under instructor



supervision. The activity required the training of 8 instructor pilots whom in turn served as the instructors for 21 additional CD pilots, who successfully navigated the ridges and mountains of Eastern Alabama. The course required 12 aircraft, trained 21 pilots who flew 24 safe and efficient sorties.

PUERTO RICO WING COUNTERDRUG

Under the direction of TSgt Carmelo Vega, USAF, and the newly appointed Wing Counterdrug Officer, PRWG CD is undergoing a renaissance in its Counterdrug program. Vega's "can-do" enthusiasm for the CD operations has him contributing an enormous sum of time and skills in re-invigorating the PRWG Caribbean missions, despite budget cutbacks. Replacement of several aging aircraft and recruitment of trained personnel are being implemented. A major portion of the PRWG mission involved an extensive requirement to transport Narcotics agents for numerous short notice, court required appearances throughout the commonwealth. This being necessary to prevent premature dismissal of drug cases, because of the non-availability of agents. PRWG is attempting to re-institute this assistance, and has begun steps to mitigate the severe effects of budget cuts upon the costly program by creating a broader pilot base. Cooperative efforts are being worked with the PR ANG, USCG, HIDTA, Bureau of Immigration & Customs Enforcement, and DEA among others. We at SER CD look forward to working with TSgt Vega and appreciate the gracious assistance of the Commander of PRWG, Col Herman Liboy.

TENNESSEE WING COUNTERDRUG & TRAINING

Maj Vernon Prevatt, Homeland Security Director and assistant to Lt Col Paul White, Counterdrug Officer: TNWG finalized plans for a Mountain Flying & Marijuana Spotting school in Knoxville for May to be supported by the West Virginia Wing. The course was to include flying operations in eastern TN, or northern GA. Unfortunately the course was canceled because of the needed diversion of assets and personnel for air support to security preparations for the G-8 Summit, Sea Island, GA. TNWG continues to confront budget cutbacks and other external challenges inherent in the eradication program, involving Federal, State and Local variables.

FLORIDA WING COUNTERDRUG & TRAINING

Lt Col Bud Borner, CDO: FLWG in addition to performing their CD mission, and support to SER, SEADS, scheduled over water survival training at Tyndall AFB and Jacksonville NAS, while also contending with budget



SER Counter Drug continued

constrictions. FLWG CD was very supportive in the development, implementation of an operational plan to support the US Coast Guard. In this capacity FLWG patrols designated routes along the East Coast, near power plants, port of entry's and other high areas along the coastline. Lt Col Borner provided Hurricane related ES sortie support, and also held a Counterdrug imagery school at Lakeland Linder (LAL) Airport. Lt Col Borner assisted by his staff and visiting SER CD personnel Maj Eddie Hood & Capt Ed Kessler, held classes for 25 CD qualified pilots. The course taught aircrews how to approach & obtain imagery of ground targets to meet national agency standards. Lt Col Borner, accomplished liaison with airport and FAA personnel to insure that the course took place, while the airport was still the hub of inbound air traffic with material support to aid hurricane recovery efforts in South Florida. The course required 8 aircraft, secured imagery of several area airports that was critiqued per tasking requirements, for a total of 39 hours to fly 38 safe and efficient sorties.

OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

The brutal attack of September 11 2001, proved to be very horrific as well as far reaching in its consequences. A paradigm shift in NORAD and DOD has occurred which has changed how they will insure the overall safety of the CONUS. The corresponding surge in military requirements has impacted the SER CD staff & aircrews, and its wings.

We support the Southeast Air Defense Sector, which requires us to fly two to three missions monthly from Brownsville, TX to Norfolk, VA, to include Puerto Rico the Caribbean and US Virgin Islands with critical assistance from select units from the SWR, MER and NER. During fiscal year 2004, NHQs data showed that of the three air defense sectors, SER CD is the most active in providing 221.7, air crew hours compared to 47.2, for the next highest region of the 3 supporting air defense missions.

As of June 04, the CD Director, CDD Assistants, and SER staff has worked a total of 547 days or 68,375 hours. This has made Southeast Region CD, with an overall ranking as 1st in providing missions out of 8 regions, the same in volume for the CD sorties and in flight hours. These numbers are unrivaled, when one considers that unlike other region headquarters units, the majority of the SER HQ/CD missions are Air Defense missions, using member provided Twin-engine aircraft, with wing C182 aircraft. This demonstrates the unique quality and of the people who insure mission success of Southeast Region Counterdrug program. Over the past 7 years that we have been conducting these missions for the 1st AF, an annual savings to the tax payer of approximately \$4.1 million dollars as realized. Our missions are especially poignant, not only in budgetary terms but in contributing to the physical safety of the American people.

SER COMMUNICATIONS

Submitted by Joel Katz, Ltc Col, SER Director of Communications

First - a big thank you to all of the Wing DC's for getting their repeater information in on time and also getting their H-1 reports thus giving Southeast Region a 100% on reporting for the third quarter of the year.

REPEATER APPLICATIONS –

Yes, we have had some conflict with getting the repeater applications approved, and NHQ has worked with us to alleviate the problems. The way the computer program operates, it makes it very difficult to think while trying to approve each application, let alone correct an accidental input that you disapprove instead of approve. Some of you have revised the applications and we have been printing them out and reviewing them. We (SER Staff) will be approving the new revisions soon.

DESIGNATORS –

As you all should know by now, we no longer publish or even mention frequencies that we use. The new designators are available from NHQ on the Communications site. It is imperative that all CAP members understand that they are NOT to give out the frequency/designator list to anyone outside of CAP for any reason. This is why all documents concerning frequencies now carries the **"FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY"** statement on every page. I expect every Wing DC and SER Staff member to monitor the frequencies and advise me of anyone not following this procedure.

SER Communications continued

If a mission involves other agencies, a briefing must be held to establish designators for use. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE will frequencies of any kind be transmitted over the air, designators will be used.

FOR SER Communicators who have CORPORATE radios – I will start reprogramming the EF Johnson radios to show the designator and when space is available, city names after the 1st of December. You will be required to send me the radio. I will reprogram and get it out the next business day. If you want to bring it to me, please call and set a date and time so that I will be available. Reprogramming without area adjustments will take no more than fifteen minutes.

AIR/GROUND COMMUNICATIONS -

Wing DC's, please pass the following to the Operations and Mission staff for their information also. I have received numerous complaints regarding the use of Victor 1 by aircrews instead of Victor 4. It is imperative that all Air/Ground communications be done on Victor 4. I am asking all Wing DC's to enforce this. If any member of the aircrew is not properly trained in changing the frequency on the radio, then they should not be in the aircraft. May I suggest that ALL aircrews be retrained in the proper use of the radio in the aircraft. The IC should verify that every vehicle or member that is on their mission that has a radio be capable of being able to switch frequencies from Victor 1 through 4.

PROPER WORDING ON THE AIR -

This is another area that I have been receiving voice mail and comments about. It appears that communicators like the old way of doing things, like the amateur radio operators and CBers. There is nothing in our communication language as LIMA CHARLIE when asked for a radio check. The proper answer must be "Good Readable", or Loud and Clear", or Weak and Readable". We also do not say as "hams" "five over".

Weekly I get reports of stations not using proper prowords on HF and VHF. At the end of every transmission the word "OVER" or "OUT" should be used. I get calls regarding members using plain English when reading numbers and spelling out information. I also hear about people checking into the HF nets improperly. We have Regulations, but it appears that people do not want to change their methods.

I told the Wing DC's that I do not want to be the bad guy, but CAPF 33's have been photocopied and are being distributed to the SER monitoring team. They will complete them and send them to me for review. I will then forward them to the Wing DC for action. I expect to receive a reply as to what you will do to correct each discrepancy. SER Communications staff will meet whenever required to follow up on, review and if necessary take further action.

VHF NETS -

There are a number of VHF nets being held that are not on my master list. I ask all of the Wing DC's to send me a list of the following information so that it can be included in the Region Communications Roster. Send to: ltcjkatz@stis.net This way, Region staff will know what nets are active when they are traveling throughout the Region.

1. City or Area
2. Designator
3. Open and close time
4. Unit operating the net.

HF NETS -

All Wing DC's need to check their net schedules and send a copy to Maj. Vinson at Evinson@ix.netcom.com

COMMUNICATIONS PLANS –

REMINDER – All Wings must submit a copy of their Communications Plans Region. Mail your plans to SER DCS Communications, P. O. Box 7027, Hollywood, FL 33081-1027.

SER Communications continued

EQUIPMENT VALIDATION –

We will be sending out a form 37 to every SER staff member having corporate radios for the yearly validation. It is your responsibility to date and sign it and mail it back to me.

Wing DC's need to start getting their 37's ready for the Wing Validation process also.

FOR SER - CAPF 76 and CALL SIGN AUTHORIZATION CARDS -

We will begin mailing the new cards the second week of December. No current call signs have been changed, even though positions and titles may have shifted. If you would like a different call sign, please send Lt Col Jan Kendrick ltcjan@hotmail.com a note before December 1st. If you do not receive your new cards by December 27th, please notify her and a replacement set will be processed.

As we near the end of 04, all of us on the SER Communications team want to extend to you and yours, and all CAP members a happy, healthy, SAFE holiday season.

SER MEDICAL

Submitted by Pat Faunt, Lt Col, SER Nurse Officer

**CALLING YOUR PHYSICIAN...
IS IT AN UPPER RESPIRATORY INFECTION OR THE FLU?**

To help your physician determine if you have a common cold, upper respiratory infection or the flu you may want to help him/her by answering the following questions.

1. Do you have a runny nose? If the answer is yes, describe the nature of the drainage, such as - is it clear, yellow/green, white, thick or bloody?
2. Do you have any nasal congestion?
3. Do you have sinus pain?
4. Do you have postnasal drip?
5. Are your eyes red, watery or itchy?
6. Do you have ear pain?
7. Do you have a fever?
8. Are you nauseated?
9. Have you vomited?
10. Do you have diarrhea?
11. Do you have a sore throat?
12. Are you achy?
13. Do you have any rashes?
14. Are you coughing? If so describe. Is your cough dry or productive? If it's productive what color is the sputum? Is it clear, yellow/green, white, thick or bloody?
15. Do you have asthma?
16. Do you use tobacco?
17. What other symptoms do you have?
18. Do you have allergies?
19. How long have you been sick?
20. If you have tried any over the counter medications do you think they helped you?

With this information your physician can decide what course of action to take. He/She may want you to come to the office for a visit or may call the pharmacy with a RX. If it is the flu don't forget the antiviral medications should be given within the first two days of symptoms. These antiviral medications are used to limit the spread and impact of influenza outbreaks. The FDA has approved four antiviral medications for the treatment of influenza: amantadine, rimantadine, oseltamivir, and zanamivir. These medications are effective in reducing duration of illness by one to two days when used within the first two days of illness.

Remember to wash your hands frequently, drink lots of fluids, eat right and get your rest.

SER THIS AND THAT...

Submitted by Roy Gibbens, Col, SER Asst IG-MS



Over the past several years I have been developing a new technology "Cycloidal" propeller for aircraft. The cycloidal propeller is being used today on marine vessels for moving ships in harbors. However the propeller was designed for use on



aircraft about ninety years ago and was put aside in the 1940's when the jet engine and the helicopter were developed.

With new materials and electronics, the propeller is again being re-developed into a modern propulsion unit for aircraft. The propeller develops more thrust per horsepower than the conventional propeller and is relatively quiet compared to the conventional propeller and the helicopter.

I first flew a small UAV using the propellers in December 2001, (This was the first successful flight of any aircraft using cycloidal propellers for complete control of an aircraft.) Since that time improvements have been made and they have been used to power and control a twenty-six foot long UAV Blimp. Using only the propellers for control the ship was able to fly backwards almost as fast as flying forward and change directions rapidly. The propeller has also been demonstrated in the UK and Canada and is being considered for use on: "High Altitude Airships" for surveillance purposes.

SER PERSONNEL

Submitted by Diane Reid, Maj, SER Director of Personnel/PAO

PROMOTIONS AROUND THE REGION

Harriet E. Coburn	TN-156	Lt Col
Don Dykes	GA-090	Lt Col
Riley Kester	GA-123	Lt Col
Vincent L. Murray	GA-121	Lt Col
Scottie D. Nations	GA-134	Lt Col

SER JANUARY AND FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Maj Ray Hayden	January 01
Capt Brian Gluck	January 08
Capt Ed Kessler	January 08
Col Matt Sharkey	January 18
Col Eileen Parker	January 23
1Lt John Stokesberry	January 25
Maj Luis Negron	February 05
Lt Col Richard Mulanax	February 13
Ch Lt Col Ralph Rivers	February 17
Maj Peter Leet	February 27



PLEASE JOIN US IN WISHING THEM A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

AWARDS AROUND THE REGION

Silver Medal of Valor – Capt William Glenn, AL-118
Silver Medal of Valor – C/SrA Chiarafay Perkins, FL-812
Bronze Medal of Valor – 1Lt Oziel Reyes, PR-122
Bronze Medal of Valor – C/SrA Joshua Roberson, MS-072

UNIT CITATIONS

Tennessee Wing, TN-001
Murfreesboro Composite Squadron, TN-162
Sweetwater Composite Squadron, GA-154
Cleveland Composite Squadron, TN-173
Humphrey's County Composite Squadron, TN-171
Puerto Rico Wing, PR-001
Dr. Cesareo Rosa Squadron, PR-123

ALABAMA WING Commander: Col John Tilton

Submitted by Tom Holer, Lt Col, Commander, Dothan Composite Squadron, Alabama Wing



Lt Shane Klase of the Dothan Composite Squadron has been selected to attend the U.S. Navy Test Pilot School as a Systems Engineer starting in February 2005. The 10 month school trains pilots and engineers on flight test techniques in aircraft performance, stability and control. Only 32 students are selected worldwide per class as the school hosts all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces as well as foreign military services. Upon completion of the course graduates will have flown in over 15 different types of aircraft ranging from jet airplanes, helicopters, and transport airliners to gliders.

Lt Shane Klase joined the Dothan Squadron in August of 2004 and is currently serving as a CAP Pilot; he is also working on the Aerospace Education specialty track. Shane is a Department of the Army Civilian (DAC) for the U.S. Army Aviation Technical Test Center (ATTC) at Fort Rucker, Alabama where he serves as a project engineer responsible for the design, development, test and certification of U.S. Army aircraft and their systems. Upon completion of the course Shane will return to ATTC for continued service as a project engineer.

"5M + 1C = CAP Career"

Submitted by Michael A. Oakman, Lt Col, Alabama Wing Vice-Commander

For the up-coming year of 2005 we as members need to look at recruiting and retention with new priorities and increased enthusiasm. I feel strongly in recommending a thinking of out-of-the-box approach. CAP members need to re-arrange their way of presenting CAP to a possible recruit and with absolute purpose in retaining any and all current members.

I would like to introduce each member to "5M + 1C = CAP Career". These are 6 words that appear to balance out the recruitment and retention of our CAP career. These words should help each of us describe the purpose, the insights, and those things that are visible and invisible in the career of a CAP member.

Marketing is a powerful word. I see it has an opportunity to introduce CAP to a perspective member as an opportunity to give of themselves to their communities, both locally and statewide. To provide services to their neighbor, to their fellow man or woman, and to a community of pilots who are there for one purpose and that is to serve. I know you are asking yourselves how this word fits into retaining individuals. Each of us must look at this as our opportunity to sell, sell again, and resell how each member has specific roles in providing a service of giving themselves. Marketing is a task and must be made continuously to those who are our customer base. Yes, our member is a customer base within our organization. Let's not forget that. You must market the member back to their own civilian organizations to whom they work for. And let's not forget their family members.

Membership is worth noting, that to have a career in CAP, a member must trust in those that are leading the organization. The CAP Missions are: Aerospace, Cadet Programs, Emergency Services, with other like missions such as our Counter Drug, Home Land Security, and FEMA. It should be interjected and demonstrated to new recruits as well as members that attending meetings, training, practice missions and actual missions is a must and must be done regularly.

Maturity is a member's personal growth within the CAP organization. Each of us should take the opportunity at the beginning of each year to set personal growth goals. Example: "I will grow in my service skill during the coming year through personal studies, completing criteria tasking for my service area, and the actual participation in CAP activities leading to my up-grading within my service skills". It's rather simple. If you have selected to enter into Emergency Service (ES), and want to be an Incident Commander (IC), then find that career path in ES to achieve this, then study, train, and test in each career until you fulfill your goal of IC.

Ministry is the reinforcement to all that in order to be a vital part of CAP, it can only be accomplished by serving personally in the skill in which the member or prospect is best suited. As one establishes their career path they grow by serving at the squadron level as well as serving at CAP activities in that same capacity or the starting of a second career opportunity.

Mission is a member's wiliness to share their knowledge with others. This must be done locally through the squadrons and state wide by participation in Wing planned activities. As the member grows in their career this sharing should be taken to the Region or to activities through National Headquarters.

Let's review: **Marketing + Membership + Maturity + Ministry + Missions**

With the first of the equation being complete lets move on to the second part, "1C". This word is truly the key to making any or part of the first part work. Try to decipher this word from the following, "an agreement or pledge to do something; something pledged; the state of being obligated". You can see from these words that the key word is "Commitment".

+ Commitment

Here are six short sentences that will hopefully help you in being committed in equating 5M+1C=CAP Career, your CAP Career:

1. I need to hold nothing back while explaining the 5M's!
2. I need to be disciplined in performing the 5M's!
3. I need to stay the course, leading by example with the 5M's!
4. I need to hold on to the truth about each of the 5M's!
5. I need to focus on the future, as related to the 5M's!
6. I need to remember I am not alone, in promoting the 5M's!

Simply equated:

Marketing + Membership + Maturity + Ministry + Missions + Commitment = CAP CAREER

Alabama Wing continued

Submitted by Al Jackson, Lt Col, Director of Recruiting, Alabama Wing



During the Air Show at the Shelby County Airport, our new Shelby County flight made history. Under the Command of Lt. Col. Johnny Ward, he presented Senator Henry (Hank) Erwin of Alabaster, AL his CAP membership card, and new CAP polo shirt. Senator Erwin plans to be quite active with the unit. The presence of Senator Erwin and Colonel Harry Ford at the recruiting booth, made the event very special, they signed autographs and answered question for many fans of the air show. The recruiting booth was hosted by members of the Bessemer Squadron, Springville flight, Squadron 90, and the Wing recruiting department.

Pictured from left to right Lt. Col. Johnny Ward, Commander Shelby flight, Lt. Col. Al Jackson, Wing Director of Recruiting, Senator Henry Erwin, and Colonel Harry E. Ford Jr.

GEORGIA WING

Commander: Col Don Greene

Submitted by Jim Phillips, Capt, PAO, Savannah Composite (Flying Tiger) Squadron



These photographs were taken 10/7/04 while participating in the GA ANG's 165th Airlift Wing family day open house at SAV.



The newspaper clipping at left was printed in 1973 and shows a Greeting from "Smiling Jack" dated 1943.

Greetings from "Smiling Jack" in 1943 (L) and again in 1973

Cartoonist congratulates old squad

Georgia Wing continued



The Savannah Composite (Flying Tiger) Squadron participated in the Vidalia Onion Festival Air Show. The photo on the left is of some of the Swift Magic Aerobatic Team members (red jump suits) Lowell Sterchi (L) and Michael Kennedy (R) with members of the Savannah Composite (Flying Tiger) Squadron. Both Sterchi and Kennedy are former C.A.P. members and had stopped by during the Vidalia Onion Festival Air Show to show their support for the Savannah Squadron.

The photo on the right shows Lt. Lee Harrison and members of the EAA's Sweet Onion Aviators Chapter in Vidalia, GA. Harrison and Capt. Jim Phillips were meeting with the EAA Chapter in efforts to form a Vidalia Squadron.

PUERTO RICO

Commander: Col Milton Tomassini

Submitted by Jose I. Ramos, Lt Col, Puerto Rico Wing Public Affairs Officer

Col. Herman Liboy Assumes Command of the PR Wing

MAYAGUEZ, PR—During a ceremony held at the Puerto Rico Wing 2004 Annual Banquet, December 4, Colonel Herman Liboy assumed command of the Puerto Rico Wing from former Wing Commander Colonel Milton Tomassini. The Change of Command Ceremony was presided by CAP National Vice-Commander Brigadier General Antonio Pineda and Southeast Region Commander Colonel Mathew Sharkey.

Colonel Liboy has been a CAP member since 1982 when he joined as a cadet at the Colonel Clara E. Livingston Cadet Squadron. As a cadet he was very active filling many leadership roles and participating on IACE visiting France. As a senior, Colonel Liboy has occupied many leadership positions including: Finance, Leadership, and Aerospace Education Officer at the Squadron level; he has also served as both Squadron and Group Commander; at the Wing level Colonel Liboy has occupied the positions of Cadet Development Officer, Chief of Staff, and Vice-Commander. Colonel Liboy is a rated Senior Observer with over 125 hours flight time.



Col Herman Liboy accepts command of the Puerto Rico Wing from CAP National Vice-Commander Antonio Pineda.

Colonel Liboy has completed all five levels of the Senior Training Program. He has attended the Region and National Staff College. Colonel Liboy has been awarded the Exceptional Service Award, Meritorious Service Award and Commander's Commendation Award on various occasions.

Puerto Rico Wing continued

Col Liboy holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Puerto Rico on Information Systems. He is the Vice-President of a family owned corporation. He is married to Miraida Santiago, also a CAP member, and has two children, Melissa and Jean Paul.

PR Wing 2004 Annual Conference and Award Banquet a Success

Submitted by Jose I. Ramos, Lt Col, Puerto Rico Wing Public Affairs Officer

MAYAGUEZ, PR—Puerto Rico Wing members gathered this year at the Mayaguez Resort to celebrate the Wing's 55th birthday and become part of the Wing's history as they witnessed the change of Command Ceremony during the evening between Colonels Milton Tomassini and Herman Liboy. Over 70 CAP members gathered for the Conference during the day and 130 members and relatives attended the evening banquet. Among those attending were CAP National Vice-Commander Brigadier General Antonio Pineda and his wife Rose, Southeast Region Commander Colonel Mathew Sharkey. Also present were key members of the Southeast Region and National Staff.



Col Sharkey addresses the General Assembly

The key point of the Conference was the General Assembly. On his speech during the Assembly Colonel Sharkey challenged each member of the Wing to bring a new member into the CAP family during 2005. General Pineda briefed the Wing on new equipment being deployed by CAP such as SDIS (Satellite Digital Image System) and new program initiatives.

During the evening CAP members and relatives came together to celebrate the Wing's achievements during 2004, foremost among these was the Wing's fifty-fifth anniversary. The Ponce High School Cadet Squadron was recognized for being one of only two squadrons in the Wing that has operated continuously and at the same place for those 55 years. A special presentation was made to the Ponce High School Director for the continuous support the school has given CAP for the past 55 years.

During the Banquet, the Dr. Cesareo Rosa Nieves Cadet Squadron also received its fourth Squadron of Distinction Award. Also the Puerto Rico Wing and the Dr. Cesareo Rosa Nieves Cadet Squadron's received Unit Citation Awards for their performance during the last year.



BG Pineda and Col Tomassini present the Cadet Commander and School Director with plaques to recognize the unit's 55 years of continuous



BG Pineda pins the Bronze Medal of Valor on the coat of 1LT Reyes



BG Pineda and Col. Sharkey present the Squadron of Distinction Award to the Unit Commander

First Lieutenant Oziel Reyes from the Col. Clara E. Livingston Cadet Squadron was presented with one of CAP's Highest Awards, the Bronze Medal of Valor, for assisting the victim of a car accident in a very dangerous situation.

Puerto Rico Wing continued

Other awards given during the banquet were Cadet of the Year which went to Cadet Major Jose Rafols, from the Yauco Cadet Squadron and Senior Member of the Year which went to the Wing's Chaplain (Major) Roberto Rodriguez.

In addition several Exceptional Service, Meritorious Service, and Commander's Commendation Awards were given to members of the Wing and the Southeast Region. The Puerto Rico National Guard (Army and Air) also recognized several members of the Wing.

The Conference was dedicated this year to Brigadier General Pineda for his support of the Wing during his tenure as Southeast Region Commander.



BG Pineda and Col Tomassini present Cadet Rafols with the Cadet of the Year Award Trophy

The key speaker was Lt Col William J. Ames, USAF, Commander of the Air Force ROTC Detachment 756, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus. Lt Col Ames gave a powerful speech on motivation and commitment to excel especially to our cadets. He encouraged them to take control of their destiny by learning and careful planning of their goals.

TENNESSEE
Commander: Col Jim Rushing

Submitted by Melinda Lord, Lt Col, Tennessee Wing Chief of Staff

TENNESSEE WING CONFERENCE HI-LITES:

Members from all over the State and even Southeast Region attended the Annual Wing Conference held in Chattanooga. Members had an opportunity to meet the newly elected National Vice-Commander, Brig Gen Antonio Pineda and the new Southeast Region Commander, Col Matt Sharkey from Florida as well as members of his staff. Wing Commander, Col. James Rushing presented information on the State of the Wing. Informative seminars on SDIS, Safety, Cadet Programs, Legal issues and more were held Saturday afternoon.

Special awards were presented to the following members: Senior Member of the Year, Lieutenant Colonel Randall L. Stripling; Cadet of the Year, C/Captain Charles E. Watson; Commander of the Year, Captain Charles W. Watson; Squadron Chaplain Officer of the Year, Chaplain (Major) Jerry Minchew; Emergency Services Officer of the Year, Major William E. Sander; Public Affairs Officer of the Year, Lieutenant Colonel George B. Melton; Logistician of the Year, Captain Donald A. Hutchins; Safety Officer of the Year, Lieutenant Lee O. Curd and Communications Officer of the Year, Major Richard A. Harmon, Sr.

Paul Johnson from NASA was the guest speaker for the banquet Saturday evening. He presented some very interesting information on the upcoming NASA projects as well as where to go to find when the space station will be visible from your home. Follow this link to find out when the station and other satellites are passing over your city.

<http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/>

Watch for more information to be posted at www.tnwg.cap.gov as well as photos of award winners.

Today's Safety Slogan is:

"Drive as if your family were in the other car"

SER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

27 Dec 04 – 02 Jan 05	SER Winter Encampment, Tyndall AFB, FL Commander: Ltc Robert Masiker, rmasiker@juno.com
05 April 2005 (tentative)	Southeast Region Cadet Competition
23-24 April 2005	Georgia Wing Conference, Dobbins AFB
02 April – 01 May	Mississippi Wing Conference, Meridian Naval Air Station
05 June 2005 (tentative)	Southeast Region Staff College
10-11 June 2005	Florida Wing Conference, Orlando
05 July 2005	National Aerospace Education Staff Officer's School Pensacola, FL

Please send all Squadron and Wing Newsletters to dreid1953@bellsouth.net

I would like to thank the Public Affairs Officers of the SER Wings as well as the Groups and Squadrons in the Southeast Region who are contributing to the SER ReCAP Newsletter. Every month, I receive more and more great information. Without your input, there would not be a SER newsletter.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

Diane Reid, Major
SER Director, Personnel/PAO